

WHITSTABLE,

February 2nd, 1904.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Whitstable Urban  
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have to report that the Births registered within the Urban District during the year 1903, amounted to 205, of which 96 were Males, and 109 Females; the Deaths amounted to 101, of which—

16 were under 1 year of age.

6 „ upwards of 1 and under 5 years.

4 „ „ 5 „ „ 15 „

4 „ „ 15 „ „ 25 „

34 „ „ 25 „ „ 65 „

37 „ „ 65 years of age.

Of the latter, 1 was 89; 1, 88; 2, 87; 1, 86; 2, 85; 1, 84; 1, 83; and 1, 82. A Sailor, a Non-Resident, was Drowned; there were 6 deaths from Whooping Cough, 1 from Enteric Fever in the Isolation Hospital, 1 from Erysipelas, 13 from Phthisis and other Tubercular Diseases, 8 from Cancer, 23 from Heart Diseases and 3 from Premature Birth; 5 persons belonging to the District died in the Blean Union Infirmary; 9 deaths of Non-Residents were registered; the Nett Deaths belonging to the District were therefore 98.

The Birth Rate was 28·2.

The Death was 13·5 per 1000.

The Mortality of Infants under 1 year 78·04 per 1000 births registered.

5 Cases of Diptheria, 2 of Erysipelas, 1 of Scarlet Fever, and 8 of Enteric Fever were reported; of the latter 3 were removed to the Isolation Hospital. The Mortality from the principal Infectious Diseases was 1·5 per 1000.

The District is generally flat towards the sea, rising gradually inland and bounded on the land side by elevations; the soil is of clay.

The Houses for the working classes are, with a few exceptions, fairly well-built and fit for habitation, the greater number having a considerable amount of open space at the back and are mostly clean and tidy. The Council exercise supervision over the erection of new houses.

The Council have the full control of the Sewerage and Drainage which is discharged by outfalls into the Sea; during the past year the question of treating the Sewage has been considered by the Council, but no definite action has yet been decided on.

The system of excrement disposal is by water closets, and appears to be satisfactory; the removal of house refuse is expeditiously effected by the Council's covered vans, in which it is conveyed to Brickfields at a distance from the Town.



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The Water Supply is principally derived from the Whitstable Water Company's mains, is periodically analysed and has been satisfactory; some houses are still supplied by wells which are carefully watched in the event of any suspicious illness arising.

The Slaughterhouses, Cowsheds and Dairies are satisfactory.

A house in Victoria Street, having been reported as causing a nuisance, was visited and being found to be in a filthy condition a notice was promptly served on the owner, who has since complied with the order.

The Notification of Diseases Act was adopted by the Council in December, 1894, and Infectious Diseases, where the patients cannot be isolated and properly nursed in their homes, are removed to the Hospital at Herne.

The Council have a Disinfecting Chamber and Isolation Hospital for Small-Pox cases, but up to the present the Hospital has not been required.

All houses where Infectious Diseases have occurred are afterwards disinfected by the Sanitary Inspector and his Assistant.

The Factories, Workshops, Workplaces, Bakehouses and Laundries have all been visited and found satisfactory in respect to cleanliness, air space, ventilation and provision of suitable sanitary conveniences. There are no Textile Factories or underground Bakehouses in the District.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

*Jno. W. Hayward*

Medical Officer of Health.

